GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:788
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
OIL RESERVES IN REGIONS ADJOINING HIMALAYAS
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil reserves has been found in the hilly regions adjoining Himalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether oil exploration activity has also been undertaken in Shivalik region in the northern part of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b) : No new hydrocarbons reserves have been discovered in the recent past in the hilly regions adjoining Himalayas.

(c)&(d): The Shivalik area lying south of Himalayas, i.e. `Himalayan Foothills basin`, has been covered by geological and gravity magnetic surveys by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). First well, Jwalamukhi-1 (in Himachal Predesh) was drilled in 1957 and encountered shallow gas horizons of limited extent. Since then fourteen more exploratory wells and eight structural wells have been drilled in this basin in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) and Uttar Pradesh without any success. During the last three years, 1997-98 to 1999-2000 ONGC has acquired 396 Ground Line Kilometre (GLK) of 2D seismic data ir Himachal Pradesh and J&K.ONGC plans to acquire another 495 GLK of 2D seismic data and drill exploratory wells in this basin during 2000-01 to 2001-02.